

statistical element indicating a probability of a payment obligation by the customer being honored, and based on that matching statistical element transmitting to the merchant computer an authorization indication indicating whether check payment for the product should be accepted and generating a printed check including the customer's name, the third party bank name, a check amount, and further including bank routing information; whereby the printed check may be processed using standard check processing channels.

B1

2. The check transport system of claim 1 wherein the statistical element is based on a factor selected from a group consisting of a total price of the identified product, the price and timing of previous purchases of other products using the unique customer identifier, the type of identified product and the occurrence of any dishonored payment associated with the previous transactions using the customer identifier.

3. The check transport system of claim 1 wherein the authorization provides the following responses:

(1) an indication of not authorized, indicating that the acceptance of a check is not advised,

(2) an indication of authorized with no guarantee, indicating that the acceptance of a check is acceptably subject to the discretion of the merchant, and

(3) an indication of authorized with a guarantee indicating that the amount of the check will be guaranteed.

4. The check transport system of claim 1 wherein the processor computer further transmits to a printer information to cause the printing of a check for the purchase of the merchandise.

8. The check transport system of claim 1 wherein the statistical element is based on a total price of the identified product.

B2

9. The check transport system of claim 1 wherein the statistical element is based on the price and timing of previous purchases of other products using the unique customer identifier.